

# THE SHAKERITE

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## DROP YOUR BEACHBALL, GRAB YOUR BRIEFCASE

Flip flops are being abandoned for business shoes and bathing suits for power suits. Check out Page 3 to watch your summer slip away.



# What's Inside

06.01.10



## VACATION? MORE LIKE NOCATION.

Summer is quickly changing from a relaxing vacation into just another three months to build up your resume. Gone are the days of lazy summer days. Get prepared for internships, \$6,000 summer excursions and other application stuffers. See Page 3 for the full story on how your vacation is turning into a nocation.

COVER ART BY VICTORIA FYDRYCH



## Maturity, please

If you're a guy, you're probably going to want to turn to the next page. Seriously. Now.

As two junior girls, we've anticipated that day in May when we will proudly wear our senior girl class of 2011 T-shirts and frolic around the Oval, dutifully writing gloating messages of seniority all over every student's car windows.



DANA FINLEY



VICTORIA FYDRYCH

Since freshman year, we've anticipated the weeklong stretch of pranks and parades around the school, which culminates in the infamous Lawn Day (or what's left of it, anyways).

Obviously, the class of 2010 has waited four years for Senior Week. Fine, we get it. We tolerated the "oooh, aaah, you wish you were a senior" (which, by the way, we do, and will be in approximately three weeks) and paint jobs on our cars.

We got up 15 minutes earlier to get to school only to park closer to Onaway than the high school, and we even tried to be semi-OK with the obnoxiousness that was the senior parade while trying to meet a press deadline tenth period.

What we can't tolerate, not only as female students representing Shaker Heights High School but also as females in general, is a group of 18-year old women proudly writing homophobic, derogatory and malicious phrases on unsuspecting students' cars, usually targeting fellow female students and often offering commentary on the owner's purported promiscuity.

In celebration of seniorhood, girls' car windows became the equivalent of a middle school bathroom stall.

The senior girls allegedly became more vicious with their messages after two junior girls attempted to stage their own version of senior week and wrote comments glorifying the class of 2011.

When did Shaker Heights High School become the set of "Mean Girls?" It's disappointing enough that senior girls were writing messages of such an offensive nature that we cannot print them in The Shakerite, but this class vs. class retaliation just took ridiculousness to a whole new level.

All parties involved are at least 16 years old; the seniors are technically adults. This level of juvenile, petty behavior is a straight-up throwback to those middle school days of burn books and awkward school pictures. And really, who wants to go there again?

It's an embarrassment to the Shaker community and girls in general when these young women perpetuate harmful gender stereotypes—like women being catty, mean, relentless and immature—that generations before them have worked so hard to eradicate.

If Shaker's senior females think that this is acceptable behavior, maybe they should spend a few more years in the Big House.

# JUNE 2010



## PAGE 3 | COVER STORY

• THINK SUMMER'S STILL A VACATION? FIND OUT WHICH OF YOUR CLASSMATES ARE USING SUMMER VACATION TO GET AHEAD.



## PAGE 5 | SHAKER SPEAKS

• CHECK OUT THE EDITORIAL BOARD'S TAKE ON THE SENIOR V. JUNIOR GIRL RIVALRY AND SENIOR WEEK 2010.



## PAGE 8 | THE SPOTLIGHT

• STILL WONDERING IF YOU SHOULD DROP THE BIG BUCKS ON APPLE'S NEWEST GADGET? TAKE OUR QUIZ TO FIND OUT IF THE IPAD IS FOR YOU!



## TORNADO

## . . .DRILL.

Eric Hutchinson  
Assistant Principal  
May 20, 2nd period

## I'm here with Super Junior Sara Pink. . .

Eric Hutchinson  
Assistant Principal  
May 20, 3rd period

## Sergeant with arms is Matthew Neary.

Student Council election results announcement  
May 21

The correct term is, of course, Sergeant at Arms.

Compiled by Dana Finley

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# SUMMER STRESS OVERLOAD

• With college admissions growing more competitive, whatever happened to the joy of summer?

BY ALYSSE EBERHARD AND GRAHAM FINE  
COVER STORY EDITORS

Summer used to be all about relaxation and having fun, but lately that's all changed. Now, summers are about cramming as many formative activities into young adults' schedules as possible. This recent shift in summer activities raises the question: what has become of summer?

Summer breaks were originally given in agricultural communities so that children could help out on their parents' farms, but now, with college admissions getting more and more competitive, young adults are forced to sacrifice their summers in order to build their resumes.

Math teacher Lori White remembers her summer as being spent at the pool and at her father's A&W restaurant. "I did it just because it was fun," White said. White recalls summer as being a time to relax but also make money. "I didn't volunteer and I didn't travel," White said. Even more contrasted with current application trends, White only applied to one college and got in.

Shaker parent Terrese Tuchscher, who grew up in California, also remembers summer as being a time for relaxation. Tuchscher remembers going on "a family vacation every year for a few weeks that always had an educational twist to it." According to Tuchscher, college resumes were not a top priority "or even a topic of discussion."

"What is summer, really?" said sophomore Emily Hirsch, who feels like her summer centers on perfecting her resume and preparing for college. She plans on juggling rowing camp, a leadership program, and volunteer work with family vacations and spending time with friends. According to Hirsch, the pressure to bulk up her resume doesn't come from her parents. "They don't care as long as I get good grades" Hirsch said. She feels that the pressure comes more from the inevitable task of building her resume.

The level at which getting into college affects some people's summer plans is clearly seen in sophomore Brianna Stack. "My summer is completely dominated by college" Stack said. Stack will be volunteering at her church's Vacation Bible School and intends to volunteer at the Nature Center and Foodbank. It seems that being well-rounded is turning into a requirement. "It's all volunteer stuff because I need more hours," Stack said. Stack is so consumed with the college process that, according to her, she spends "more time on collegeboard.com than on Facebook."

As if getting into college doesn't cause enough stress, the prospect of not graduating high school is also looming over Shaker students. In-house gym requirements

can be completed over the summer if someone's schedule is too busy during the school year. Students such as Hirsch who don't have time in their schedule to complete their gym credit take gym over the summer. Hirsch will be doing gym for five weeks at Hathaway Brown School. "It's such a stupid, ridiculous requirement," Hirsch said.

With companies like Career Explorations, which offers "customized internship programs for high school and college students," the pressure is coming from corporate America, too. Career Explorations centers on a four-week stay in New York City, Boston, Chicago or San Francisco, where students will learn about their chosen field. The catch is, you don't get paid for the internship and you have to pay as much as \$6,295 in order to be accepted into this program. Is paying thousands of dollars just for one more credential really worth it?

Not everyone feels the pressure of college. Junior Jacob Miller said "I'll be playing pre-season soccer and I'll be a counselor at my camp. I've decided to do those activities because I want to." Like many other students, Miller is just involved with a lot of different activities and said, "I didn't plan my summer with college in mind." For some people, building a resume is not a primary priority, and they can fill their summer with activities they enjoy and that look good on their resume.

Among those who have yet to feel the pressure of college are the members of the freshman class. Being new to high school, they are generally more worried about settling into high school than thinking about college. "I just try my hardest in school so later in my high school career I can have a choice of where I want to go," freshman Alé Bliss said in a Facebook interview. Bliss feels that some of her peers fill their daily schedules with extracurricular activities that they don't necessarily enjoy. "I have a few things that I do, and I just do them the best that I can, that way I don't stress myself out as much," Bliss said.

While many people are aware of the significance of bulking up one's resume, a time of relaxation holds its importance. "You can do these things because you want to or like to do it, it doesn't have to be about filling up your college resume," guidance counselor Elizabeth Blakeslee-Vokes said.

"In reality though, if you're looking at the admission process, doing these things over the summer will catch college's attention," guidance counselor Jeffrey Lewis said. "Colleges wouldn't be attracted if you sit down and watch TV all summer."

With a son who has gone through the process already, and a daughter who will soon go through the same, White knows what the modern college application process is like.

"Doing all the 'right' stuff won't necessarily get you in to college" White said. But on the other hand, White feels that not doing "enough" isn't necessarily going to disqualify you from the college game. "It's up to the parent to put it into perspective. If you don't get into the college you want, it's OK."

As a parent, Tuchscher is no stranger to this reality. "Although being admitted into an Ivy League school is a wonderful accomplishment, this is not a guarantee of leading a happy, healthy successful life. There are many wonderful opportunities available for a great education."

Layne Sims contributed reporting.

## TOP 5 WAYS TO BUILD YOUR RESUME

### 1. VOLUNTEERING

From the Nature Center to the Cleveland Foodbank, most organizations need some extra help. You can work for as long you'd like, but no matter what, you'll earn service hours. Great volunteering locations for young adults include the ASPA and the Shaker Public Library.

### 2. COMMUNITY SERVICE CAMPS

Community service summer camps keep summer fun but also give you community service hours. From building roads to teaching about Christianity, community service camps have it all. A great place to check out is the TLC camp at the middle school.

### 3. INTERNSHIPS

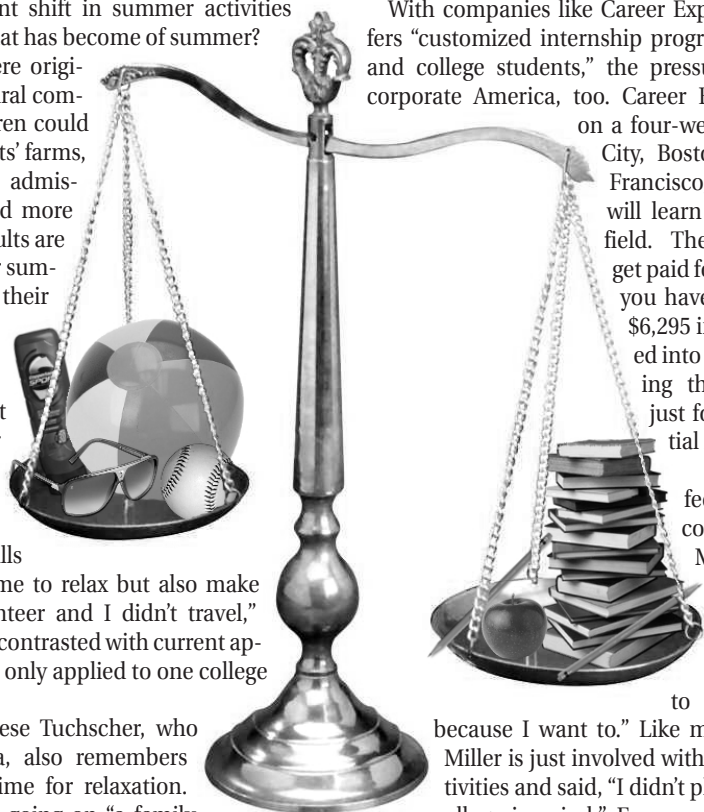
Though they're harder to find, internships can train and keep you busy. Working somewhere relevant to your future occupation will show college admissions that you are serious about getting trained for the job.

### 4. TUTORING

As a tutor, you would be paired with someone close to your own age and be helping them to learn and keep them motivated. Your teachers can pair you up with students who need your help and sometimes, these jobs can even pay.

### 5. COLLEGE SUMMER PROGRAMS

Most colleges offer summer programs for high school students that will help them refine the skills they will need for college. If you're serious enough about what college major or occupational field you want to pursue, these programs can give you the upper hand for success.



## TAKING STOCK OF SUMMER



Izzy Storm  
junior

Summer is when I'm not focusing on school. I'm looking toward my future.



Cara Sutherland  
sophomore

My yearly fill of Vitamin D.



Parker Smith  
freshman

A chance to let loose and have fun.



Emily Hirsch  
sophomore

Summer is for completing graduating requirements and getting into colleges.



Austin Murray  
junior

A time when I can take a break...mostly I can just chill and go on vacation.



Alé Bliss  
freshman

Just a chance to focus on things other than school: sports, sleeping, colleges.



## BUDGET CUTS MADE DESPITE PASSAGE OF LEVY

Voters approved the 9.9 mill school levy 58-42 percent May 4. However, the school district plans to cut \$2 million from the operating budget for the next three years in order to offset declines in property tax collection and state funding. Most of the cuts will occur in staffing through attrition – the district will not hire teachers to replace those who retire or resign. The high school will lose eight teaching positions. Hardest hit will be the English department, which will lose four teachers, and the math department, which will lose two. According to Principal Michael Griffith, the cuts will mean 80 fewer course sections offered next year. In addition, the district will bid out food service in all buildings, so district cafeteria workers will be let go.



### PIGEONS FLOCK AT THE HIGH SCHOOL THIS SPRING

Whether you consider them rats with wings or beautiful birds, pigeons have arrived at the high school. A few appeared in the courtyard in early April and began peering into the windows of math classes in Room 234. Soon, they were flocking in the courtyard. Perhaps they have come to the high school in order to expand their knowledge; pigeons, very social and intelligent birds, can recognize all letters of the alphabet.



birding.in/birds

ROCK PIGEONS LIKE the one pictured above are the primary type of pigeons in Shaker. Twenty-eight different types of pigeons live in the United States, and many can be identified by the colors of the feathers on their necks, also known as "hackle."

### TEACHER MEETS BIRD IN CLASSROOM



Reid

When English teacher Jewel Reid returned to Room 228 after an after-school meeting, she opened the door and startled a pigeon that had flown in and perched on the suspended fluorescent light. "The pigeon flew over my head, and I screamed and screeched," Reid said. "It made quite a scene." Security responded to Reid's cries, and custodian Carlos Sanchez-Rodriguez shooed the bird outside using the fallen screen.

Compiled by Erin Cullen and Sarah-Jane Lorenzo

“What they wrote was mean. It was not funny.”

Alyssa Lindbloom  
junior

# A WINDOW ON CLASS WARFARE



Dana Finley • The Shakerite

THIS CAR ILLUSTRATES the conflict that emerged among seniors and juniors during senior week May 3-7. As they do each year, seniors claimed their superiority by using washable paint to deliver messages such as "You wish you were a senior" on cars parked on the oval. In some instances they also painted slurs and obscene images on juniors' and underclassmen's car windows. Some language and images were too graphic to publish in The Shakerite. Principal Michael Griffith attributed these events to conflicts among individuals rather than to senior prankdom. However defacing cars and even traffic signs has become a senior ritual since 2006. In 2008, The Shakerite published a story about senior graffiti; one example suggested stabbing an administrator.

## • Messages of senior spirit descend into personal attacks, and juniors retaliate

BY SARAH-JANE LORENZO AND ERIN CULLEN  
NOTEWORTHY EDITORS

Profane and abusive messages, as well as images painted on students' car windows, marred what was otherwise an unusually calm Senior Week.

Despite Principal Michael Griffith's letter to parents stating that the school does not endorse Senior Week, seniors announced the event with a hallway banner and staged pranks thorough the week of May 3. The most disruptive efforts included using washable window paint to write messages on windows of cars parked around the oval.

This activity, which has been occurring during Senior Week for at least five years, began with spirited and mild messages such as "You wish you were a senior" and "Big Ten."

Soon, however, they descended into slurs, insults and pornographic imagery so harsh that they cannot be printed in The Shakerite. At least 19 cars were written on between May 3 and May 7.

Juniors Alyssa Lindbloom and Maeve Metheny, whose cars were defaced with obscenities and images of male genitalia, responded by writing on seniors' cars. Although both Lindbloom and Metheny received one day of in-school suspension, no punishment was issued to any of the seniors.

According to Lindbloom, the administration could not verify which seniors had painted the Lindbloom and Metheny cars.

"What they wrote was mean. It was not funny," Lindbloom said.

Lieutenant Jeff DeMuth of the Shaker Heights Police Department said that although the city prosecutor would make the final decision, students who paint on others' cars could face criminal charges. "It's possible, sure, I mean, in law there are very few things that are slam dunks," DeMuth said.

While writing messages on vehicles without the owners' approval is not considered vandalism, DeMuth said the behavior could qualify as disorderly conduct or criminal mischief.

Despite Griffith's letter, he said in an interview that senior pranks and Senior Week in general were fine as long as they did not get out of hand. "If there's nothing negative I don't see a problem . . . we ended up having a Senior Week that was very positive," he said.

Asked, about issues regarding car defacing he said that he did not believe that any incidents involving the cars were related to Senior Week. "It really wasn't about Senior Week; it was about individuals who had issues with each other."

Although Griffith denied a relationship between Senior Week and car defacing, the writing of profane messages on cars, and at times on traffic signs around the oval, has occurred during Senior Week for at least five years.

The police department, which had been in contact with school security during Senior Week, did not receive any reports or complaints from community members. Said DeMuth, "We were aware of a couple of things that happened up there [at the high school], but no one came and reported it to us."

### Junior Jealousy

The exchange of painted insults brought students' envy of seniors into sharp focus.

Junior Alexis Payne said that some juniors are envious because of seniors' rights and teachers' permissiveness. "It's all of the privileges and the way teachers are more lenient and chill," she said.

Seniors who take AP tests and go on senior project escape the daily academic load, which can make younger students resentful.

When students are reminded for three years that they have not yet achieved seniorhood, they seem eager to celebrate doing so by pointing out who has not. Each spring seniors flaunt their status by painting "you wish you were a senior" on underclassmen's cars. This yearly comment reflects the message students receive at freshman class meetings, when they are told they are "in the basement and every year you move up a floor" sophomores are told they are the "middle child."

Although some seniors went to the trouble engage in a window paint war, seniors such as Whitney Livingston said it wasn't worth the bother.

"To be honest, especially toward the end of the year, we really don't care about anyone or anything. All we want is to get to college."

Livingston believes that envious juniors and underclassman may be overreacting. She said, "It's not like in the movies. There isn't a crowd of seniors who pick out underclassmen and throw them into lockers and stuff Them them into garbage dumpsters."



Erin Cullen • The Shakerite

## COURTYARD GARDEN INSPIRES HEROISM

Be a hero! Go to [truehero.org](http://truehero.org) and vote to earn a grant for the high school's learning garden project. The northwest corner of the courtyard has been transformed into a garden that will be tended by special education, AP Environmental Science and IB students. Special education teacher Stacy Steggert organized the project, originally funded by a PTO grant. The garden includes one bed constructed at a height accessible to students who use wheelchairs. To help expand the garden, cast your vote by June 30. At press time, Shaker's project was in third place with 765 votes. If you are interested in tending the garden over the summer, contact Steggert in Room 132.

RACHEL SHAW



## Studying the summer away

**R**emember the good old days, when summer vacation was actually a vacation? You probably don't, because it's been out of fashion for awhile.

More teenagers are complaining about their summer workload – their summer internship, their job and extra classes they're taking to get ahead in school. Doing the summer reading for English class is one thing, but adding chapters of a history textbook to the vacation load is ridiculous. Students and teachers have forgotten the reason for summer vacation: two months off to relax and gather strength for the upcoming school year, when we'll be once again deprived of sleep for months on end.



ILANA KRAMER

In past years I have tried to forget the yearly grind by going to camp each summer, but school has even intruded on my camp life. While all of my friends will be relaxing by the lake, I will be completing summer reading for English and history class, but I will also have to meet with my sponsor to complete independent study for gym class.

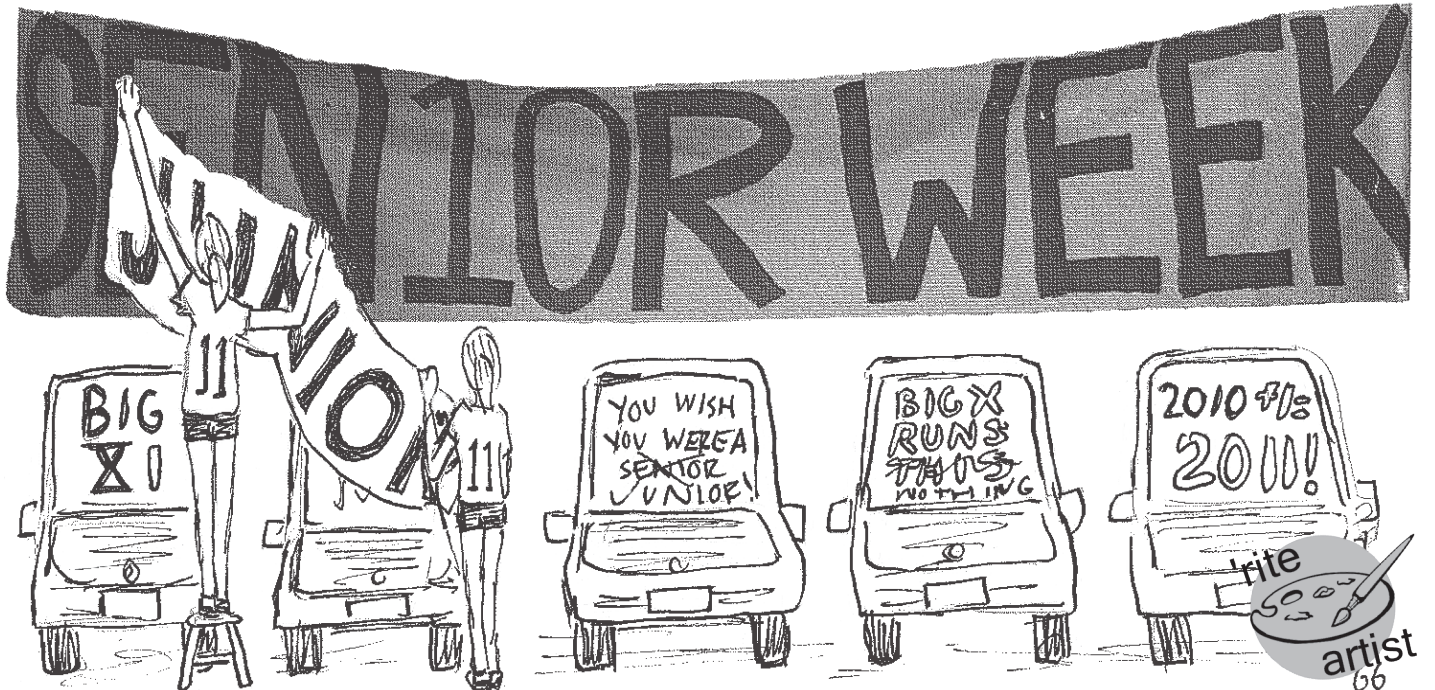
Don't misunderstand my point – internships allow students to experiment with a possible career choice, and summer jobs teach responsibility. In addition, they both look good on college applications. But is it worth extending the stress of the school year two more months? The school year is challenging enough already with difficult classes, extracurricular activities, and even part-time jobs after school. It's vital to take a break.

Sophomore Noah Eisen was turned off from AP United States History this past year because of the five chapters of summer reading necessary for the class. He realized he would rather enjoy his summer than spend it studying.

Guidance counselors have always encouraged the idea of spending summer vacation wisely. Guidance Department Chairwoman Eileen Blattner said that a summer program is "a wonderful opportunity for personal growth." Blattner thinks it's important for all students to try to expand their areas of study. She said that if a summer activity is "something that you want to do that will help you grow as an individual and reach your full potential," nothing should stop you from pursuing it.

But Blattner also warned that a summer program will only be effective and enjoyable if it interests the student, and that participating in a summer program just to add it to your college application is not a good reason.

I'm not suggesting that your summer should be spent wasting away in front of a TV screen. Instead, aim for balance. An internship is a productive way to spend your summer, but don't overwork yourself to the point that you return to school more exhausted than when you left. Remember the reason for summer – a vacation.



Gabe Gordon • The Shakerite

## YOU WISH YOU WERE A SENIOR

**G**et the message straight. Before "Senior Week," Principal Michael Griffith sent letters home explicitly stating that the administration does not condone pranks, prank week or Senior Week in general. And yet, when we walked into school Monday, May 3, we were greeted by banners that announced, "Senior Week," and that remained untouched for the duration of the week.

Once again, we are confronted with a mixed message. Since the administrative stance is not enforced, why shouldn't students assume that the letter was purely meant to uphold the district's positive image? After all, students infer that weakly delivered announcements are just another way of saying that most likely, bad behavior will not be punished. Fortunately, for the most part, the Class of 2010 kept their celebration within the boundaries of good taste and common sense.

That being said, if the administration decides that Senior Week is a problem, they need to send out a clear message against it. Although Griffith's April 30 announcement was an attempt to warn seniors of the consequences of foolish behavior the following week, the message was obscured in an apparent attempt to soften the tone. We never heard direct statements of actions which would result in specific consequences.

Cheers to the seniors for keeping the pranks tame and following the administration's expectations for their week. Saran Wrapping the cafeteria was actually funny – too bad someone

went too far and vandalized the bathrooms. Jeers to the two junior girls who crossed the line, taking it upon themselves to punish the seniors who had written insults on their cars.

Seniors have been writing celebratory messages on the cars around the Oval for years, but unfortunately, those messages include slurs, insults and pornographic images. Although juniors were punished for these same actions, the seniors should be held accountable as well. If students continue to do this, there is no reason that the administration should continue to allow students to park on the Oval during Senior Week – at least when a levy is on the ballot. The fear of voters seeing students' cars defaced with profanity prompted the administration to order security guards to wash offensive language off of vehicles May 4.

In recent years there have been a regrettably high number of incidents that could encourage the school to actually forbid Senior Week. Last year, fish wound up dying in bathroom sinks. This year, juniors opted for revenge on the seniors who had written on their cars. However, with the exception of vandalizing cars, the "Big Ten" seniors chose pranks that should allow Senior Week to continue.

Everyone wants their own Senior Week, complete with pranks, Lawn Day, the Senior Parade and painted car windows. Students are the only ones who can prevent these things from happening. Kudos to the seniors who kept Senior Week calm. Underclassmen, wait your turn.

## Promising spirit, delivering none 'rite

**W**e have noticed a spirited trend in Student Council campaigns – in most, the only thing resembling a platform is the pledge to increase school spirit.

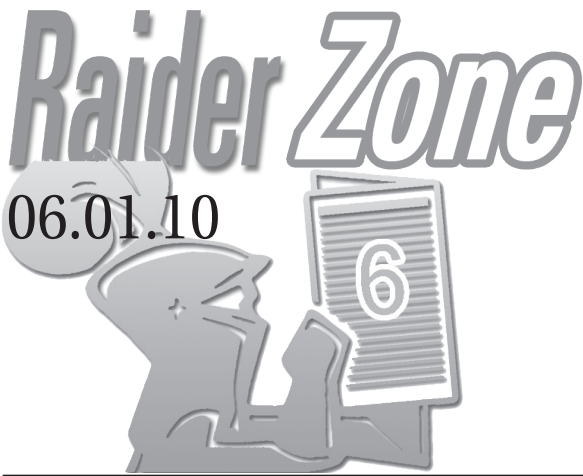
Yes, Shaker students may be lacking in spirit, but don't Student Council members have anything else to offer? Over the past few years, promises to increase school-wide spirit have been in almost every speech.

Yet, we still have none. Why should we believe that will change?

On another note, the same music that the administration cracked down on at dances was played between speeches on the elections video.

The point of the video, evidently, is to enable at least some administrative review of speeches. So presumably, the video was screened before students saw it. Either the administration missed the inappropriate lyrics, or they chose to overlook them.

Let's hear it for hypocrisy.



**A MONTH-LONG FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT**  
South Africa will soon host a sports tournament rivaled only by the Olympics. Yes, it's time for the World Cup. Time for all of you soccer fans to cheer as 36 teams take part in the soccer battle royale to see which country will reign as the world's greatest soccer team. "I love seeing all the different players of the world and seeing how excited the fans get," said junior Zosia Prochoroff, who is Polish. Sophomore Amber Goin predicts the Americans will be in the fight: "I think it'll be between my two favorite teams, Brazil and the U.S. It'll be great." The action lasts from June 11 to July 11, and you can catch it on NBC, FSN, ABC, ESPN, ESPN.com, or even in ESPN 3-D!

FRANCIS GOINS



## Greatness doesn't depend on the King

**T**he Drive, The Fumble, The Shot, and now: The Boston Massacre. The breathtaking collapse of LeBron James and the Cavaliers in the second round of the NBA playoffs proves once again that no matter what, victory is always snatched from the desperate hands of Clevelanders. These recurring ego-crushing defeats lead to the low self-esteem necessary for a city to completely humiliate itself in an effort to persuade an athlete to stay. By now, we're all agonizingly aware of LeBron's looming decision, and we've picked apart the appeal of every team he is considering. People seem to think that whether our city falls apart or not is in the hands of LeBron, that we really are "the mistake by the lake," and that our city will become an even bigger mistake if we lose our "king."



**KYRA HALL** Even Cleveland Mayor Frank Jackson is in on the desperate effort to stroke LeBron's ego. "He is as kind as he is enormously talented and is a significant part of what makes the city of Cleveland great," Jackson told the Plain Dealer. I wouldn't be surprised to hear some say the Cuyahoga River would catch fire again if James leaves us for a sexier city. Despite the hype, the only one who knows the future of LeBron is himself. Is his heart here in Cleveland, or will his ego sweep him off to another city? If his ego wins, we only have ourselves to blame. How can you not have a big ego when a 212-foot by 110-foot poster of you dominates the eastern face of the Sherwin-Williams building downtown? How could anyone's ego remain in check when the governor sings love songs to you to the tune of "We Are the World?"

### GO THERE

To see Ted Strickland and other local celebrities sing "We Are LeBron," visit [tinyurl.com/lebronsong](http://tinyurl.com/lebronsong)

Strickland, Sen. Sherrod Brown and Cleveland celebrities recorded "We Are LeBron" in an effort to win the second LeBron lottery. "Please stay, LeBron. We really need you. No bigger market's going to love you half as much as we do," they sing during the chorus. The final humiliating blow comes when they sing, "We will name every street LeBron if that's what it takes."

Hmm, I wouldn't go that far. LeBron, I'd love for you to stay. But, Cleveland needs to focus on the bigger picture: The Cavaliers. One person cannot make the city great. However, one team can.

## IT RUNS IN THE FAMILY



oh.milesplit.us

**JUNIOR ELIJHA OWENS** leaps over a hurdle in the 110 meter high hurdles at the Collinwood Invitational. "He pretty much comes in first or second in every invitational meet he's ever been in," assistant men's track coach Michael Summers said.

• Elijha Owens is the latest in a line of speedy athletes related to an Olympic legend

BY IAN ROUND  
RAIDER ZONE EDITOR

Speed definitely runs in junior Elijha Owens' family.

A plaque bearing a picture of his father, Curtis, hangs outside the North Gym honoring him for being Shaker's 1986 state champion in the 100 and 200 meters. Elijha's great uncle was the legendary Jesse Owens, famous for winning four gold medals in the 1936 Berlin Olympics and being disrespected when Adolf Hitler refused to shake his hand afterward.

Not surprisingly, Elijha believes his speed comes naturally. "It's genetic," he said.

Owens is the Lake Erie League champion in the 110 meter high hurdles, the 200 meters and the 300 meter intermediate hurdles (in which the hurdles are 36, rather than 39 inches high). He is the indoor state champion for the 60 meter high hurdles and is likely headed to the state championships after the district and regional meet. He was the Plain Dealer boy's track Player of the Week for May 13.

"He pretty much comes in first or second in every invitational meet he's ever been in," assistant men's track coach Michael Summers said.

As one of the few returning runners this year, Elijha was thrust into a position of leadership. "He's not the most vocal . . . but when he talks it's worthwhile," Summers said.

"I'm one of the shy types; I don't like talking," Elijha said.

Summers said Elijha's work ethic is outstanding. Said Summers, "He definitely puts in the practice time on top of his God-given talent."

/// She's won everything she's ever ran. She attacks everything you give her. ///

Henry Woodard • Women's track coach

## Sophomore sprinter Andrews dominates

BY FRANCIS GOINS  
RAIDER ZONE EDITOR

**H**ead women's track coach Henry Woodard has nothing but respect and admiration for sophomore Naleta Andrews.

"She's won everything she's ever ran," said Woodard. "She attacks everything you give her."

In addition to being the top runner for the women's team, Andrews sets an excellent example for other runners. "Her performance is inspirational," Woodard said.

"Naleta is a very well-put together runner," teammate Amber Goin said. "And she has a lot of determination to get her job done."

Andrews, along with Amber Davis and Erin Cullen, set the new school 4x800 meter record this season. An-

drews also topped former Shaker standout Shaniqua McGinnis' 400 meter record at Gilmour's Miele Invitational. This sophomore sensation has helped elevate the women's track team to one of the best in the state.

Andrews is also Shaker's best candidate for states as an individual. One might expect someone to be overconfident about heading into states undefeated, but Andrews keeps things in perspective.

"I've been on the top of my game and we have made some big surprises," she said of the season so far.

Along with Andrews, Amber Davis, Goin, Alyssa Binczyk and Cullen are top contenders for the 4x400 and 4x800 relay race at the state championship.

Said Andrews, "Hopefully I'll make top three, but I'm only a sophomore so I have plenty of time."



Andrews



The Shakerite helps you navigate the current of change.



Compiled by Ellen Holcomb and Devin Parry

# ART EXPOSED: PAINTING A PICTURE FOR THE COMMUNITY

• Move from courtyard to Shaker Main Library brings student art into the light

BY DEVIN PARRY AND ELLEN HOLCOMB  
THE SPOTLIGHT EDITORS

I remember being in art class . . . and this is not what we were doing.”

Shaker parent and alumna Jessica Semel’s observation summed up the reaction to the May 14 opening night of Art Exposed at the Shaker Heights Main Library. “I’m totally impressed,” she said.

Its previous incarnation, Art Fair, was a carnival-like, annual event held in the high school courtyard. Students and faculty visited the fair to view and purchase student artwork and jewelry.

Each edition of the fair featured a theme, and food and drinks tied to the theme were sold at booths. This year, however, the fair has given way to a more sophisticated gallery exposition, Art Exposed.

“Art Fair was a six-hour gem for the student body, but it needed to go farther than that,” Art Department Chairman Dan Whitely said. “It needed to go outside the walls of Shaker so that the community can see what we’re doing.”

Students’ work is mounted in the Shaker Art Gallery, which is located on the library’s second floor. “Bringing art to the library shows art in a gallery setting, instead of a carnival setting. It brings students’ work out there and shows their accomplishments,” Whitely said.

While Art Fair has always been popular among Shaker students, Art Exposed was definitely a hit with the community.

About 30 people were seen leaving the library about an hour after the opening began, but inside the gallery

was still packed. Parents, teachers, students and alumni filled the long, curving hallway which displays student work ranging from ceramic pieces to large painted canvases.

Although breathing room was nearly impossible to find, not many seemed to mind the lack of personal space.

“[The pieces] are all so different. This is so impressive. I wish I had had something like this when I was there. I wish students of my four years could have showed their talent in this setting,” Alena Horvath (’06) said.

Art Exploration teacher Kathleen Fleming said her students were enthusiastic about the change.

“I found that the students are very excited about showing their work. My students were very excited to show and help out. Having them help and be part of the show really brings them into it,” she said.

Whitely explained that International Baccalaureate program that Shaker has recently adopted encourages the use of resources within a community. That emphasis was part of the reason for the switch from the courtyard to the library.

The gallery allows the community to view what is going on behind the canvases of the art rooms. “It helps with the levies. It shows what we’re doing and where the tax dollars are going,” Whitely said.

Senior AP Portfolio student Elaina Gregg, who participated in Art Fair since her freshman year, said the move off campus offers a more complete experience. “Art Exposed is much different from the previous year’s Art Fair, as the focus is much more public-oriented, and Art Exposed is a more sophisticated display of the art department’s curriculum,” she said.

Students who came to the opening to support their peers were impressed despite the loss of Art Fair.



## GO THERE

Art Exposed is open through May 28 at the Shaker Heights Public Library during regular library hours.



Photos by Shala Miller • The Shakerite

“I went [to Art Fair] freshman year, but I really enjoyed this. It makes me wish I took an art class,” junior Rachel Davidson said.

Sophomore Terry Conlon came to show his friends some support. “I thought the show was fantasmic. A couple of pieces, including Ian Adam’s ‘Ligature Logo’ piece, really blew me away,” he said.

While it’s no doubt that the show was a hit, some students still miss their beloved Art Fair.

“I feel like this is too crowded and it doesn’t give us a chance to show everyone’s talents – like the students who cooked the food. It’s too stuffy,” said senior Sydnie Echols.

Senior Alison Brandon agreed, adding, “Art Fair was a place where everyone could come together through art, but this isn’t bad though.”

The library is located at 16500 Van Aken Blvd. Art Exposed will remain open through May 28.

JUNIOR RACHEL DAVIDSON attended Art Exposed at the Shaker Heights Public Library on opening day, May 14.

## FORMER SHAKER STUDENT GOES ‘GLEE’



### CHERNIN

How popular is “Glee?” Millions of hopeful fans have posted their audition reels on the show’s MySpace site in a contest to score a role in the upcoming second season. Max Chernin (’08) is one such “Glee” vying for one of three spots. He hopes to be called to Los Angeles this July for a follow-up audition. Spotlight editor Katie Inglis talked with Chernin.

**Katie: How and when did you get involved in acting?**

Max: I started taking theatre classes when I was about 6 or 7.

I really had my roots at the Dobama Theatre, when it still was in the basement of the Free Times building on Coventry. I took a number of classes with the resident artists there, and I started performing in shows at Heights Youth Theatre pretty consistently after that.

**What Shaker programs did you participate in?**

I was in the ensemble program in the theatre department and Chanticleers, men’s

a cappella ensemble and a cappella choir in the music department.

**Did those programs influence your love of acting and desire to succeed?**

Looking back, these programs all established a strong sense of professionalism that I still carry with me today; the physical self-awareness brought out by the diverse curriculum in the ensemble program parallels much of the work in my collegiate acting courses now; it’s a really strong foundation for any actor. And I would not be the musician I am today without Doc [Dr. Robert Schneider]; he truly pushed us in all of the singing work we did in high school, holding us to high standards and always challenging and expanding our repertoire.

**How did you find out about the “Glee” audition?**

I was in New York City over my spring break from school, about to audition for a summer stock production of “Brigadoon,” when I heard that they were looking to cast from an open call, and it was going to be on campus at the University of Cincinnati.

**Can you describe how you ended up winning the competition before the “Glee” audition?**

On the initial day, 400 people auditioned, it was narrowed down to 50 finalists, then 10. Two weeks later we reconvened and performed live, and they chose one winner. I think I ended up winning because I focused on the way “Glee” uses a pop song to tell a story and put that into my work. The other contestants left out that aspect in their performance, and I think that’s how the judges separated me from the rest. And I was a 6’2” ginger riffing up Rihanna’s “Take A Bow.” I was the one winner from that night, and that meant the local Fox station filmed and edited my submission on the “Glee” Myspace site. They had a code from the producers in LA that accompanied my video and assured that it would be seen by casting directors.

**What are your goals for the future involving your acting?**

I guess I’d like to not get typed into one specific kind of actor for the rest of my life, at the end of my performance career (if I have one.) I’d like to be recognized for my versatility as a performer, not for being good at one thing.

## 40 questions we'd rather not answer

**W**hat nervous breakdown are we on? We've lost count. The first few start off with angry complaints. The second time, loud shrieks and pounding on textbooks. The third round brings hysterical crying, locking yourself in a room, and curling up in a ball in the corner with a tub of Chocolate Therapy from Ben & Jerry's. Fourth time around, you consider fleeing the country as the only way out.

Yes, we've reached April and the daunting task of 40 questions. Think we're being overly dramatic? Think again. The week before spring break, AP U.S. History students receive 40 essay questions ranging from the 17<sup>th</sup> century to the present. We are expected, at the end of April, to pick two questions out of a box and choose one to orally outline in front of the whole class. We apologize for not having the brains to memorize and analyze 300-plus years of American History at the drop of a hat.



**Katie Inglis** and political developments in the latter half of the nineteenth century.

Forty questions collateral damage may include: uncontrollable crying (before, during and after presenting), vomiting, sporadic urination, deprivation of sleep for weeks, complete loss of appetite (or shameless binging), and fainting.

Now, we warn you not to twist our words. We don't argue with APUSH teacher Tim Mitchell when he says this oral exam will "motivate students to get deeply engaged in the preparation process." We realize that



**Alysse Eberhard**

Shaker students do exceptionally well on the AP test in May, and 40 questions likely plays a part in this. We have seen the results proving a majority of 2008-2009 APUSH students received a 5 on the exam. We don't object to analyzing the information or constructing a formal essay. We understand that this is an Advanced Placement course.

But is the immeasurable stress that accompanies this assignment really worth it? Is the agony what we signed up for? These "symptoms" are only half of the equation. You also have to carry this information in your head for weeks, leaving little space for English, math, science or health. Don't follow our lead and let those grades slip. Remember that 40 questions won't be an acceptable excuse to give to your math teacher when you score 57 percent on the last test.

Our advice? Hold your bladder, keep your food down and surgically remove your tear ducts. And, if you will begin this course in the fall, remember, 40 questions is just one 50 point assignment.

And, who knows? You may be immune to the pressures of prolonged uncertainty, insurmountable content and public speaking. Personally, our psyches have been wracked so severely that we suffer from 40 Questions Syndrome.

Posted on UrbanDictionary.com by sophomore Spencer Seballos and first diagnosed by sophomore Matt Krantz, this syndrome describes the condition in which, after presenting for oral exams in AP U.S. History, you no longer care about school.

As we APUSH students breathe enormous sighs of relief, we can't help but wonder: was it all worth it?

## SHOULD YOU BUY AN IPAD?



• Discover if you're meant to be Apple's latest victim. Have you fallen into the marketing trap?

You live in a cave. Please get with it and learn how to work modern technology. Don't even think about entering that Apple store; you will die of old age before you master the brilliance of Apple technology. Climb out of your cave, breathe in the fresh air, and accept that you are a part of the generation that must be technologically savvy if they expect to survive.

Go read a book, please. The first step is to admit you have a problem. Whether it is Facebook, the TV or the video games in your darkened basement, you need to learn that there are other forms of entertainment. Go to a park, a museum, a library, or even just lay out by the pool with your favorite book – anything! Just get off the couch and move your legs before they waste away to nothing!

Take a trip to the Apple Store immediately. You understand technology and you take advantage of it, but you're not immune to understanding that there is a world out there beyond your favorite games or TV shows. That kind of balance is admirable, so treat yourself to the hottest new toy out there, the iPad. Apps may be a fortune and all the accessories necessary may limit your college options, but what the hey, you deserve it!